

STACY GARRITY *for Governor*

SPEECH TO MARCELLUS SHALE COALITION TEXT AS PREPARED FOR DELIVERY JUNE 9, 2026

Thank you! It is a pleasure to join you today.

I want to ask everyone to close your eyes and follow along with me.

It's January 2030. We're three years into the term of our next Governor. What do you see?

I see a Pennsylvania that's thriving. I see a Pennsylvania where we've added 200,000 family sustaining jobs. I see a Pennsylvania where parents, not bureaucrats, decide the best way to educate their children. I see a Pennsylvania where families and businesses no longer dread opening their electric bills. I see a Pennsylvania where the natural gas from my community in Bradford County is being processed at an LNG facility in Philadelphia, and then exported around the globe. And I see a Pennsylvania where we've eliminated 50,000 burdensome regulations.

Now open your eyes.

Because this will be the headline ("*Pennsylvania's Turnaround Story*") on the front page of the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette and every major publication across our commonwealth three years into my administration. Not because the media wants to give us credit, but because our success will be undeniable.

And if we're not turning our commonwealth around, I won't be touting empty promises, I will be stepping aside and not running for re-election.

But the success I described is not what we see in Pennsylvania today, and it's not the Pennsylvania we will be if we stay on our current path.

I remind my audiences at nearly every speech I give that Pennsylvania is currently ranked 38th economically, 39th in education, and 41st overall.

While we sit at the bottom of nearly every metric nationwide, we are in the top ten in one critical area: people leaving our commonwealth. Today, we rank 6th in people leaving our state for opportunities elsewhere. My administration's goal put us in the top 10 for states where people are moving here for the opportunities we are providing.

So, how do we get from where we are today to where we all know we can be?

How do we turn around the commonwealth every one of us wants to be successful, prosperous, and full of opportunity for the 13 million residents who call Pennsylvania home?

How do we live up to the standard set by those who signed our Declaration of Independence, who preserved those freedoms with their blood on the fields of Gettysburg, and drilled the first oil well in Titusville, sparking an industrial revolution that changed the course of human history?

We do it with you, and Pennsylvania natural gas! Together, we will make Pennsylvania America's energy leader, and with it, America the energy leader for the World.

We will secure our energy future through the energy dominance that has been the hallmark of our commonwealth's heritage, and by unleashing the liquid gold under our feet, we will expand opportunity and prosperity for all Pennsylvania. You will lead this charge, and here is how we're going to do it in a Garrity Richey administration!

Our current policies are forcing families to pay hundreds, and in some cases thousands more each year for heat, air conditioning, and electricity. So rather than mandating the type of energy Pennsylvania uses, we will restore a competitive marketplace, replacing bad energy policies that are costing Pennsylvanians billions.

Day One of a Garrity-Richey administration, I will sign an executive order to lift the outdated ban on new drilling sites. We will call a Special Session of the legislature on energy to fast-track permits for natural gas production, pipelines, and powerplants. We will eliminate duplicative and outdated regulations. We will set firm timelines for approvals, roll back costly mandates, and reform or potentially eliminate renewable energy and efficiency mandates.

Today, about 120,000 Pennsylvania jobs are tied to the natural gas industry. Sounds like a lot, right? But a little more than a decade ago, there were more than 300,000 jobs tied to Pennsylvania natural gas.

My plan will expand energy generation capacity and spur downstream manufacturing. And done right, we can create more than 200,000 jobs and \$6 billion in revenue for state and local communities, allowing us to drill and frack our way out of the \$5 billion hole we find ourselves in today.

My administration will also cut the red tape that is standing in the way of virtually everyone trying to work with our state government. Everyone and every industry has due dates - at work and in your personal lives. So too should our state government.

Today, our Department of Environmental Protection is better known as *Don't Expect A Permit*. As your Governor, DEP will be known as *Delivering Every Permit*.

For all state permits needed for new energy production, there will be a deadline set for state agencies. This will force the red tape to be cut and demand an up or down decision on approval requests.

Pennsylvania should not just be leading the nation; we should be leading the World in energy production. And we are the gold standard in doing so... because you are producing energy in the most environmentally responsible ways possible.

You are reducing CO2 emissions. We have among the lowest methane intensity levels of major shale basins across the globe. And you have funded more than a half billion dollars in environmental protection projects across the commonwealth.

You are not the problem... you are the solution!

The term energy dominance gets tossed around a lot these days... and you are the key to making that a reality. You just need a governor who will let you do it.

And the people of Pennsylvania need a governor who will let you do it too!

Pennsylvania is the powerhouse for sending energy to the PJM grid. In fact, we're the number one net electricity exporter. And almost 60% of that generation comes exclusively from natural gas!

To put that in perspective, natural gas' share, your share, of electric generation has quadrupled in the past 15 years!

The current administration instituted a cap on the price electricity can be sold at auction, and this is a dangerous precedent. First, PJM operates on a market driven basis, and this price cap does not fix the problem - it only exacerbates it.

Before the cap, states that did not send their fair share of energy to the grid paid a surcharge. With the cap in place, states with failed energy policies like Virginia and Maryland are now getting a free ride on the backs of Pennsylvania ratepayers.

Our electric grid is only as strong as its weakest link.

Under my administration, Pennsylvania consumers will no longer be forced to pay for the failed policies of our neighboring states. We will lead an aggressive campaign with

PJM and FERC to ensure that every state sends their fair share of energy to the grid... or they will face a penalty for relying on other energy generators.

And my administration won't stop there. Utility bills have become one of the greatest burdens facing far too many families across our commonwealth.

Today, Pennsylvania's Gross Receipts Tax on electricity is a hidden surcharge costing families and businesses over \$1 billion every year. My plan eliminates it entirely, saving the average family of four an estimated \$400 in the first year, growing to \$900 annually. And the revenue will come from increased economic development from the drilling industry.

Likewise, Pennsylvania utility bills will be required to clearly itemize every charge... from generation costs to transmission fees, distribution charges, and all taxes... so customers know exactly what they pay and why. A standardized bill format across all utilities will make it easier to compare rates.

I will direct the PUC to create a public dashboard to track historical rate trends and utility performance, with all rate or tax changes clearly communicated in advance.

Finally, my administration will stop Harrisburg's regulatory overreach. We will put the power back into the hands of elected officials and take it out of the hands of unelected bureaucrats.

The success of Pennsylvania's natural gas industry means the success of all Pennsylvanians.

Our Commonwealth's oil and natural gas industry is the cornerstone of our economy. I am the proud daughter of Bradford County, from the heart of the Marcellus Shale Region... so supporting oil and natural gas is not a boilerplate political statement for me. In fact, I know how you operate, because you literally do it on my property!

I understand how your work sustains rural communities, because that is my community.

I know the impact oil and gas jobs have on families, because those families are my neighbors.

I know the reliability of your energy supply, because you heat my home.

And I know the importance of ensuring our nation's energy security because I deployed three times to the Middle East, where energy is our enemy's weapon of choice to hold us hostage.

We're seeing this in the conflict with Iran today.

I served our nation in uniform for three decades. I was deployed as part of Operation Desert Storm, Operation Iraqi Freedom, and Operation Enduring Freedom. I know the power and the will of the United States military.

No military in the history of the World can match our Armed Forces, so the only tool our enemy has at their disposal to counter our technological and operational superiority is to hold global energy markets hostage.

Pennsylvanians have an opportunity to counter those attacks from half a World away without ever firing a shot in return, but we need a governor who will unleash the energy under our feet in response.

My promise to you is that as your next Governor, you will always receive clarity and an ear to hear your concerns.

And you will have an advocate who will defend Pennsylvania's role in America's energy future.

Pennsylvania is at a fork in the road, and we have to decide what kind of state we want to be.

Are we going to be a state where families open their electric bills with dread or are we going to be a state that uses Pennsylvania energy to power Pennsylvania's future?

In nearly every speech I give, I remind my audience that two hundred and fifty years ago this summer, a little over 100 miles to the east, our nation's Founders stood up and did something the World had never seen. They told the largest, most mighty empire in the World: "enough."

And out of that moment, our Commonwealth became the birthplace of freedom and liberty, the place where America's enduring dream of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness began, a movement that has freed more people economically and socially than any in the history of mankind.

You deserve a governor with a plan worthy of a commonwealth that gave birth to this nation and that dream.

You deserve a governor who will do more than over tax and overregulate the very resources and industries that can make us a leader again.

You deserve a governor who will put the future of her constituents ahead of her own political aspirations.

That is the goal of the plan I just laid out for you.

To support Pennsylvanian... American... and global consumers, we need to unleash the energy under our feet.

To unleash the energy under our feet, we need to empower you.

And to empower you, we need a Governor who recognizes the impact their decisions have on the future of our commonwealth... our nation... and the World.

But leadership matters. Accountability matters. And putting Pennsylvania families and businesses first matters.

This is our moment.

This is our turning point.

And together, we will restore opportunity... affordability... and the promise of the great Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

God bless you. God bless the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. And God bless the United States of America.

Thank you.

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